DELL

NO. 744

LITTLE BEAVER

Read: THE SECRET OF "THE HOWLING CAVERN"

INDIAN HUNTER

Two hundred yards from his game, the modern hunter crouches, leans against a steadying rock, and peers through his telescopic sights. Immediately, he finds himself within only a few yards of his quarry. The rest is simple.

How the Indians of our early West would have marveled at such a feat. For them, the ability to get within striking distance meant many years of constant practice.

Because of the short range of his weapons, the Indian was handicapped and had to train himself to think like the animals he pursued. He had to become a master woodsman, able to recognize and imitate wildlife calls. He had to slip through brush on moccasined feet with the wariness of a fox, and possess the deer's sensitivity to sounds that meant danger.

And how did the Indian acquire these skills? — *In school!* As today's child studies schoolbooks, the Indian boy spent long hours patiently studying wildlife. Returning home in the evening, he would recite aloud all that he had seen and heard. His elders would note and correct his mistakes. Thus, profiting by the knowledge of those who had hunted for many years, he prepared himself for the tenseness, the quiet, and the danger of his kind of hunting. Thus he learned how to bring home the meat for his family and the skins for his tipi.

With the Indian, it was not so simple.

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Little BEAVER

The HOWLING CAVERN

JUST AS LITTLE BEAVER IS RETURNING TO HIS VILLAGE FROM A HUNTING TRIP...

AIEE! SOUND-UM LIKE EVIL SPIRITS BACK IN HAUNTED CANYON!

AH-H-H-H-OO-O!

YE-E-E-E-E-AH-H-H

ME TELL-UM CHIEF HEAP FAST!

BE MORE CAREFUL, LITTLE BEAVER!

ME HEAP SORRY, GREAT CHIEF! BUT ME HEAR-UM EVIL SPIRITS!

ME HEAR-UM *THERE!* COMING FROM CAVERN THAT LEAD-UM TO HAUNTED CANYON!

ENOUGH, LITTLE ONE! ALL OF NAVAHO VILLAGE HEARS WAILING! IT IS A BAD OMEN FOR THE NAVAHO!

TWO MOONS AGO, SPIRITS DESCEND INTO VALLEY AND TAKE ALL OF TRIBE'S SHEEP! NOW TRIBE MUST MOVE AWAY...TO ESCAPE FURTHER WRATH OF DISPLEASED SPIRITS!

L.B.O.S.*744-5611

SEE? ALREADY, MANY WARRIORS LEAVE VILLAGE! THEY SEARCH FOR NEW LAND AND HUNT FOR GAME, SO TRIBE NOT STARVE!

TO SPEED SUCCESS OF BRAVE WARRIORS, WE OFFER GREAT PRIZE! CHIEF'S HEADDRESS TO BE BESTOWED UPON HEAD OF BRAVE WHO FIND BEST LAND!

HO! THAT BE FINE PRIZE!

ME BRAVE WARRIOR! ME GO HUNT-UM, TOO!

NO, LITTLE ONE! WOMEN AND CHILDREN STAY IN CAMP TILL BRAVES RETURN!— I HAVE SPOKEN!

THIS BE BAD! LITTLE BEAVER WANT TO HELP-UM TRIBE OUT OF TROUBLE! WHAT ME DO?

QUIET, SILVERTAIL! LITTLE BEAVER THINK-UM!

YAP! YAP!

WAIT! COME BACK...! AI, NOW ME SEE WHAT YOU BE AFTER! IT BE-UM JACK RABBIT!

YAP! YAP!

THIS MAY BE CHANCE FOR LITTLE BEAVER TO GET-UM GAME! NOT VERY BIG, BUT IT HELP!

(WHEW!) WE RUN-UM LONG TIME, SILVERTAIL! RABBIT NOT EASY TO CATCH!

YAP!

RABBIT CROSS-UM BRIDGE! ACROSS BRIDGE BE HAUNTED GROUND!

STOP! STOP! SILVERTAIL! EVIL SPIRITS GET-UM YOU!

YAP!

AWAH! NOW WHAT ME DO? ME CAN'T LET SPIRITS FIND-UM SILVERTAIL!

MAYBE IF ME FIND-UM PUP BEFORE NIGHTFALL, WE BE-UM OKAY!

ME CALL-UM HEAP QUIET...! PS-S-ST! SILVERTAIL!

AI, THERE HIM BE NOW! HERE, SILVERTAIL! COME HERE! BE QUICK-UM!

BUT WHAT THIS BE IN MOUTH? LOOK-UM LIKE SPUR!

ROWF!

THIS BE HEAP STRANGE! ME NOT THINK-UM SPIRITS WEAR SPURS!

WAIT-UM UP, SILVERTAIL! WHERE YOU GET-UM THIS?

HO! NOW ME *KNOW* THIS NOT BE SPIRITS! ONLY *MAN* DIG-UM HOLE IN MOUNTAIN... LOOK-UM FOR SPARKLING EARTH!

BE HEAP QUIET, SILVERTAIL! WHOEVER BE HERE MIGHT NOT LIKE-UM VISITORS!

MAYBE THEY BE FURTHER BACK! WE BE HEAP CAREFUL!

SOMEONE COMING! WE HIDE-UM IN HERE!

HEY, JIP! I THINK OUR LITTLE PLAN WILL WORK!

HIM BE PLENTY MEAN-LOOKING HOMBRE!

I WAS UP ON TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN! SAW A BUNCH OF INDIANS RIDING OUT OF THE VILLAGE! LOOKS TO ME LIKE THEY'RE ON THEIR WAY TO SCOUT FOR NEW LAND!

GOOD! THE QUICKER THE BETTER! THEN WE CAN CLAIM THIS LAND WITHOUT ANY INTERFERENCE FROM THEM!

YOU KNOW, WE'RE PRETTY SMART!... WE STEAL THEIR SHEEP, MAKE A FEW WEIRD NOISES — AND PRESTO — THEY'RE SCARED, THEY LEAVE, AND WE'RE *RICH!*

AH-WAH! ME BETTER GET BACK HEAP FAST AND TELL-UM CHIEF!

ME JUST HOPE-UM CHIEF BELIEVE ME! HIM MIGHT NOT THINK-UM SPIRITS REALLY BE WHITE MEN!

SUDDENLY...

OO-O-OOF!

BA-A-A!

THAT BE ONE OF NAVAHO FLOCK! ME TAKE-UM BACK TO VILLAGE! PROVE-UM TO CHIEF THAT SPIRITS NOT ONES WHO TAKE FLOCK!

COME ON, RAM! WE GO-UM ACROSS BRIDGE! QUICK— BEFORE MEN COME!

HIM PLENTY STUBBORN RAM! ME TRY-UM *PUSH* TOWARD BRIDGE! MAYBE BETTER THAN PULL!

WOWF!

NO, NO, SILVERTAIL! MEN HEAR-UM YOU!

YAP! YAP! YAP!

BUT PUSH-UM RAM GOOD IDEA! NOW WE GO LIKE WIND!

LISTEN! THAT SOUNDED LIKE A DOG!

COME ON! SOMEONE MUST BE AROUND!

LOOK! THE RAM GOT LOOSE! AND THERE'S AN INJUN KID WITH A DOG AFTER HIM!

GET AFTER THE KID! HE'S PROBABLY SEEN THIS MINE!

WAIT A MINUTE, NAT! THE SHEEP GOT OUT OF THE GULCH! WE'VE *GOT* TO GET 'EM BACK!

NO TIME NOW! GOT TO CATCH THAT KID FIRST!

LOOK! THOSE SHEEP ARE HEADIN' STRAIGHT FOR THE BRIDGE! THAT RAM MUST BE THE *LEADER!*

STUPID CRITTERS! GET OUT OF THE WAY!

BA-A-A-A-A!

HURRY UP, RAM! IF MEN CATCH-UM NOW, WE NEVER BE ABLE TO HELP-UM NAVAHO TRIBE!

THE TREMENDOUS WEIGHT OF THE FLOCK OF SHEEP IS TOO MUCH FOR THE FRAGILE BRIDGE AND SUDDENLY, IT BREAKS...

CR-A-A-A-ACK!

...SPILLING THE SHEEP, THE MEN, AND...

AIEE-E-E!

SPLA-A-SH!

...LITTLE BEAVER, INTO THE SWIFT CURRENT...

...WHERE THE RACING WATERS CARRY ONE AND ALL TOWARD THE TUNNEL AND THE WATERFALL...

BA-A-A

BA-A-

HANG-UM ON TIGHT, SILVERTAIL! WE GO-UM OVER WATERFALL TOGETHER!

ARF!

THE SOUNDS IN THE CAVERN, MAGNIFIED TENFOLD, ARE HEARD IN THE VILLAGE BELOW...

OH, GREAT CHIEF! IT IS TOO LATE TO MOVE AWAY! ALREADY, THE SPIRITS ARE ANGRY! THEY WREAK VENGEANCE UPON US ALL!

IT IS TRUE! THE SOUNDS THEY MAKE ARE TERRIBLE TO HEAR!

AH-H-WOW-O-

-AH!

BUT, LOOK! LOOK! HOW CAN IT BE?

IT IS A TRICK OF THE SPIRITS!

A GOOD OMEN! THEY HAVE SENT BACK OUR SHEEP!

BUT THERE ARE TWO WHITE MEN!...

...AND LITTLE BEAVER!

QUICK! GO TO RIVER WITH-UM LONG BRANCHES! GET-UM LITTLE BEAVER AND WHITE MEN!

KEEP-UM CHIN UP, LITTLE ONE! WE HELP-UM YOU!

THAT BE GOOD!

QUICK — GET-UM TWO WHITE MEN! THEY TRY TO TRICK-UM TRIBE!

WE GET-UM, LITTLE ONE!

(GULP!) H-HELP!

I'M D-DROWNING! (GLUB! GLUB!)

TH-THANK GOODNESS!

W-WE'RE S-SAVED!

LOOK-UM LIKE SHEEP BE MUCH BETTER SWIMMERS THAN YOU! HA! HA!

GULP!

ME HEAR-UM THESE MEN TALK IN SILVER MINE! THEY TRY MAKE NAVAHOS THINK-UM EVIL SPIRITS BE IN MOUNTAIN!

GREED FOR RICHES MORE IMPORTANT TO THESE MEN THAN NAVAHO WELFARE!

WELL, THIS BE SOMETHING SHERIFF IN RIMROCK TAKE CARE OF! TAKE-UM TWO MEN TO TOWN!

HA! ME KNOW WHAT SHERIFF NEWT DO! MEN SEE-UM INSIDE OF JAIL FOR HEAP LONG TIME!

COME WITH ME, LITTLE BEAVER! NAVAHO TRIBE VERY GRATEFUL TO YOU BECAUSE YOU SAVE NAVAHO HOME GROUNDS!

...AND SO WITH THIS PRIZE, WE MAKE YOU LITTLE CHIEFTAIN!

WAGH! ME THINK-UM PRIZE NOT SO GOOD FOR EYES!

LITTLE BEAVER

...in... THE SLY THIEF

ONE MORNING, LITTLE BEAVER ANGRILY PURSUES HIS PET CROW, AS IT HEADS FOR ITS NEST WITH STOLEN TREASURE...

MIDNIGHT! COME BACK WITH NECKLACE! TRIBE SILVERSMITH BE-UM HEAP ANGRY!

MIDNIGHT NO LISTEN! NOW ME HEAP ANGRY, TOO! HAVE-UM LONG RIDE AGAIN TO GET-UM JEWELRY!

MEANWHILE, NOT FAR AWAY, TWO RIMROCK-BOUND TRAVELERS MEET ON THE TRAIL...

...SO YOU'RE A BANK EXAMINER, FOSTER!... I WORKED IN A BANK ONCE, MYSELF, BUT I DIDN'T LIKE IT!

WELL, I CAN'T SAY YET WHETHER I'LL LIKE THIS JOB OR NOT, WEBBER!

THE RIMROCK BANK WILL BE MY FIRST ASSIGNMENT!

YOU MEAN YOU DON'T *KNOW* ANYBODY THERE?

NOT A SOUL!...SAY ARE YOU *SURE* THIS IS A SHORT CUT TO TOWN?

IT DOESN'T MATTER! *YOU* AREN'T GOING TO TOWN, ANYWAY!

HUH?... HEY! WHAT'S THE IDEA OF THE GUN?

IT'S SIMPLE, FOSTER! I JUST FIGURED OUT AN EASY WAY TO CLEAN OUT THE RIMROCK BANK USING YOUR CREDENTIALS!

SHORTLY...

TOO BAD YOU TRIED TO GET AWAY... OTHERWISE, I WOULDN'T HAVE HAD TO WING YOU...

I'D BETTER PUT ON THIS FALSE BEARD AGAIN! ONE OF THOSE "WANTED FOR EMBEZZLING" POSTERS ON ME MIGHT HAVE REACHED RIMROCK BY NOW!

MEANWHILE, HIGH IN THE TREETOP ABOVE, MIDNIGHT HAS RETURNED TO HIS NEST WITH HIS TREASURE...

AND, AS JOE RIDES OFF, THE FALLEN MAN'S SPARKLING TIE PIN CATCHES MIDNIGHT'S EYE...

BETTER TAKE FOSTER'S HORSE OFF A WAYS SO HE WON'T ATTRACT ATTENTION!

A FEW MOMENTS LATER, LITTLE BEAVER SPIES HIS PET...

HAI! THERE BE MIDNIGHT! MIDNIGHT! YOU COME-UM HERE!

YOU STEAL-UM SOMETHING ELSE, MIDNIGHT?...WHAT YOU GOT-UM NOW?

AHYAH!...THIS BE WHITE MAN'S TIE PIN! WHERE YOU STEAL-UM?

CAW-W-W!

THAT NOT TELL-UM ANYTHING... MAYBE YOU FIND-UM WHERE ME SEE YOU FLY UP!

ME BETTER TAKE-UM LOOK!

EEEEYAH!...WHAT YOU DO-UM THERE, MISTER?

I...I'VE BEEN SHOT!

ME UNTIE YOU AND GET-UM WATER AND ROOTS! MAKE-UM HEAP GOOD MEDISUM!

D-DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME...!

...GET TO BANK... RIMROCK! WARN LENNON!... WATCH OUT FOR MAN...LONG SCAR ON... CHIN-N-N...

AWAH! HIM SLEEP AGAIN!

QUICKLY, LITTLE BEAVER DRESSES TED'S SHOULDER AND...

ROOT MEDISUM MAKE-UM FEEL HEAP GOOD SOON!... NOW ME WARN-UM MR. LENNON AT BANK, THEN BRING-UM WHITE MEDISUM MAN BACK!

LATER...

BANK

YOU NOT STEAL-UM ANYTHING IN BANK, MIDNIGHT, OR MR. LENNON PULL-UM TAIL FEATHERS OUT!

CAW-W-W

LOOK, MR. LENNON! I'M THE BANK EXAMINER, AND I SAY THOSE LEDGERS DON'T BALANCE WITH THAT CASH!

MR. LENNON! ME GOT TO TELL-UM YOU SOMETHING HEAP FAST!

GO AWAY, LITTLE BEAVER! I'M HAVING *ENOUGH* TROUBLE WITH *THIS* FELLOW!

BUT THIS BE *REAL* IMPORTANT!

ALL RIGHT! WHAT IN THUNDER IS SO...

CAW-W-W!

HEY! GET AWAY FROM THERE!

DROP THAT! OOOP!

AW-W-WK!

CRASH!

ME BE HEAP SORRY, MR. LENNON! ME PICK-UM UP AFTER ME TELL-UM...

NO! JUST GET THAT THIEVING CROW OUT OF HERE! NOW!

I...I'M SORRY, MR. FOSTER! SHALL WE GET BACK TO THE LEDGERS?

NOT NOW!... I'D BETTER COME BACK THIS EVENING WHEN I CAN WORK ALONE AND IN PEACE!

Y-YES-OF COURSE — WHATEVER YOU SAY! HERE — YOU CAN TAKE MY KEY! AND I DO HOPE YOU'LL FIND EVERYTHING IN ORDER!

AS JOE WALKS FROM THE BANK...

YOU MESS-UM THINGS UP GOOD! NOW, HOW WE WARN-UM MR. LENNON 'BOUT MAN WITH SCAR ON CHIN?

ER...WHAT'S THAT ABOUT A SCAR?

AFTER LITTLE BEAVER TELLS ABOUT TED...

SURE GLAD YOU TOLD ME ABOUT THIS, LITTLE BEAVER! COME ON, I WANT TO TALK TO HIM!

ME NOT GET-UM DOCTOR-MAN FIRST?

NO TIME FOR THAT! BESIDES, IF HE ISN'T HURT BAD, WE CAN BRING HIM BACK OURSELVES!

OKAY! ME TAKE-UM YOU TO HIM!

LATER...

HIM STILL ASLEEP! WE TRY WAKE-UM UP!

NO! NOT NOW!

NOT TILL I'VE TIED YOU UP, KID!

HEY! WHAT YOU DO-UM?

IN HIS SURPRISE, LITTLE BEAVER CLUTCHES JOE'S BEARD...

AIEE! BEARD COMING OFF!.

SECONDS LATER...

YOU...YOU BE MAN WITH SCAR!

RIGHT! BUT YOU WON'T TELL ANYBODY!

HE DOESN'T HAVE TO!... REACH!

HUH?

NO, YOU DON'T, FOSTER!

OWWW!

PRESENTLY...

THIS IS THE LAST TIME I'M TYING YOU UP, FOSTER! NEXT TIME I WON'T FOOL AROUND!

I'LL TAKE YOUR BULLETS— SOME EXTRA AMMUNITION MIGHT COME IN KINDA 'HANDY FOR ME!

AND WITHOUT BULLETS YOU WON'T BE NEEDING THIS GUN!

WELL, BOYS, SOON AS I FINISH THIS, I'LL BE LEAVING YOU ALL ALONE!

THE GLEAMING CARTRIDGES ATTRACT MIDNIGHT...

...WHO, ESCAPING JOE'S NOTICE, QUICKLY SNATCHES ONE AND FLIES OFF...

IF YOU GET BORED, YOU CAN THINK OF ALL THE FUN I'M HAVING SPENDING MY LOOT IN MEXICO!

SHORTLY...

SO LONG, BOYS! IF YOU EVER GET LOOSE, YOU'LL FIND YOUR HORSES SOMEWHERE BETWEEN HERE AND RIMROCK!

UGH! THIS BE BAD FIX! BUT MAYBE ME GOT-UM IDEA FOR GET-UM LOOSE WITH BIG BUCKLE ON MR. FOSTER'S BULLET BELT!

AS JOE RIDES OFF..

MAYBE MAKE-UM BUCKLE SHARP ENOUGH ON ROCK TO CUT-UM ROPE!

TWO HOURS LATER...

(WHEW!) TAKE-UM LONG TIME! SUN GO DOWN ALREADY!

NOW ME TRY-UM... AHYAH! IT CUT-UM ROPE! NOW ME HELP-UM MR. FOSTER!

MEANWHILE, JOE HAS SUCCESSFULLY CARRIED OUT HIS PLAN...

SURE WISH I COULD SEE LENNON'S FACE WHEN HE COMES TO WORK TOMORROW AND FINDS OUT I'VE HELPED MYSELF TO TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS!

SINCE IT'S ON MY WAY TO THE BORDER, ANYWAY, I'D BETTER PLAY IT SAFE AND CHECK ON FOSTER AND THAT INDIAN KID!

BEFORE LONG...

THANKS, LITTLE BEAVER!

HAI! SOMEONE COME! MAYBE BAD MAN!

AND ME WITH A BUM ARM AND AN EMPTY GUN!... IF I ONLY HAD *ONE* BULLET...JUST ONE...

ONE BE EASY! YOU GET-UM GUN FROM BUSHES! I GET-UM BULLET FROM MIDNIGHT'S NEST!

SECONDS LATER...

SQUAWK!

GET-UM AWAY, MIDNIGHT! WE NEED-UM THIS HEAP BAD!

BUT HOW'D YOU KNOW THERE WAS A BULLET UP THERE?

ME SEE-UM MIDNIGHT STEAL IT AND TAKE-UM TO NEST WHEN BAD MAN FILL-UM BULLET BELT!

SOON...

THEY'RE *GONE!* I'D BETTER HIT FOR THE BORDER!

YOU'D BETTER RAISE YOUR HANDS INSTEAD, WEBBER!

WHO ARE YOU KIDDING, FOSTER? YOU KNOW I GOT *ALL* YOUR AMMUNITION!

I WARN YOU — DON'T DRAW THAT GUN, WEBBER!

BLAM!

OWWW!

BUT—BUT, THE AMMUNITION! WHERE'D YOU GET IT? I THOUGHT I...

WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO KNOW?

AS TED HOLSTERS HIS GUN, LITTLE BEAVER BRINGS HIS BOW UP FAST...

AWAH! HE PULL-UM KNIFE FROM SLEEVE!

THAT STOP HIM!

AWK!

ULP!

THUNK!

DROP-UM KNIFE OR ME LET-UM 'NOTHER ARROW GO!

S-SURE, KID!... BUT GET THIS BLASTED BUZZARD OFF ME!

CAW-W

AFTER LITTLE BEAVER ROUNDS UP THEIR HORSES...

LOCO CROW SURE MAKE-UM BIG NOISE!

LITTLE BEAVER, THERE'S TEN THOUSAND REASONS IN WEBBER'S SADDLE BAGS FOR BOTH YOU AND MIDNIGHT TO DO PLENTY OF CROWING!

CAW!

LITTLE BEAVER in THREE BLACK SHEEP

CHIEF'S COUNCIL MAKE-UM BIG PLANS FOR SING ON SPIRIT MOUNTAIN TOMORROW, LITTLE BEAVER!

ME MAKE-UM BIG PLANS, TOO! WIN-UM STALK-UM CONTEST WITH THIS SHEEPSKIN, YOU BETCH-UM!

YOU WIN-UM WITH *THAT*?... HA!--- YOU NOT EVEN FOOL-UM *GRANDMA SNAPTURTLE* WITH OLD SHEEPSKIN!

NO?... JUST WATCH-UM!

ME SNEAK-UM UP ON GRANDMA SNAPTURTLE BEFORE SHE KNOW-UM!

BUT JUST THEN GRANDMA SNAPTURTLE DISAPPEARS INTO THE HOGAN...

UGH! SHEEPSKIN SLIP-UM OVER EYE! NO CAN SEE WHERE HEAD-UM!

THERE!... ME PLENTY GLAD THAT JOB BE-UM OVER!

THE SHEEPSKIN DOWN OVER HIS EYES, LITTLE BEAVER UNWITTINGLY HEADS TOWARD THE COUNCIL SHELTER...

SOON... HA!? SEEM LIKE-UM I SHOULD HAVE REACHED GRANDMA SNAPTURTLE BY NOW...

WHAT FOOLISHNESS IS THIS?

EEEE-YA!

SO! IT'S YOU, LITTLE BEAVER!

YOU* BETTER HAVE A GOOD REASON FOR THIS INTERRUPTION, LITTLE BEAVER!

M-ME ONLY PRACTICE FOR STALK-UM CONTEST AT SING, CHIEF WHITE CLOUD!

I THINK YOU NEED ***PUNISHMENT*** AS WELL AS PRACTICE, LITTLE BEAVER! --- HERE! YOU SHALL PRACTICE WITH YOUR SHEEPSKIN WHILE YOU GUARD THE VILLAGE SHEEP FOR THE NEXT THREE DAYS!

YOU... YOU MEAN ME NOT GO-UM TO SING WITH REST OF TRIBE TOMORROW?

NOT UNLESS YOU FIND A WAY TO GET THE SHEEP THERE, TOO!

ME GUSDUSTED! CHIEF WHITE CLOUD ASK-UM SHERIFF NEWT AN' MANY PEOPLE FROM RIMROCK TO VISIT-UM SING!... NOW ME NOT GET TO SEE-UM OLD FRIENDS!

ABOVE WHITE CLOUD'S VILLAGE AT THAT MOMENT...

RING, YOU SURE THOSE INJUNS'LL ALL GO TO THAT SING TOMORROW?

THEY MAY LEAVE A GUARD OR TWO FOR THE SHEEP! BUT, BERT, THOSE NAVAHOS WOJLD RATHER STARVE THAN MISS A SING!

OKAY! WELL GET FLIP TO HELP US RUSTLE THE SHEEP!... YOU THINK THREE WAGONS'LL CARRY ALL OF THEM?

THEY'LL CARRY ENOUGH TO GET US A NICE HUNK OF CASH, ANYWAY!

THEN IT'S SET! AFTER THE INJUNS LEAVE TOMORROW, WE'LL COME IN AND LOAD UP THEIR SHEEP FAST!

WE CAN HAVE THEM SOLD AND BE LONG GONE BEFORE ANY-BODY GETS WISE!

NEXT DAY, HOURS AFTER THE NAVAHOS HAVE LEFT FOR SPIRIT MOUNTAIN...

YOU BE-UM LEADER SHEEP! WHY YOU NOT BE FINE FELLOW AND LEAD-UM FLOCK TO SING AT SPIRIT MOUNTAIN? THAT WAY, LITTLE BEAVER FOLLOW-UM AND...

HAI!... WAGONS COME!

PRESENTLY...

WHO YOU LOOK-UM FOR? NOBODY HERE BUT ME AND SHEEP!

THAT'S THE WAY WE WANT IT, SONNY!

OKAY, BOYS! START LOADING!

FLIP, GRAB THAT LEAD SHEEP! WE'LL NEED HIM TO HELP US GET THE OTHERS INTO THE WAGONS!

GOOD IDEA! THOSE DUMB WOOLIES'LL FOLLOW THIS ONE ANYWHERE!

HOLD-UM ON! YOU NOT TAKE-UM SHEEP! BELONG-UM *NAVAHOS!*

ME GET-UM CHIEF WHITE CLOUD HEAP FAST!

HEY! COME BACK HERE!

LET-UM *GO!*

AND LET YOU BRING BACK THE WHOLE BLAMED TRIBE? SORRY, INJUN, BUT YOU'RE GETTIN' TIED UP *RIGHT NOW!*

THAT SHOULD HOLD YOU A WHILE, KID!

NOT LONG AFTER...

WE BETTER GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE SOME INJUN SHOWS UP AND CATCHES US!

WELL, THAT'S THAT!---BOY! USING THAT LEAD SHEEP MADE THE JOB A CINCH!

WO-WEE! WHAT ME DO-UM NOW?

TAKE-UM NAVAHO'S SHEEP BE SAME AS TAKE-UM FOOD AND CLOTHES!

WO HOURS PASS AS LITTLE BEAVER STRUGGLES DESPERATELY TO GET LOOSE...

WHITE CLOUD ***REALLY*** BE MAD AT LITTLE BEAVER NOW! ME ***GOT*** TO GET-UM LOOSE!... MAYBE IF ME ROLL-UM OVER...

OWWN! ME STABBED!

HA! THIS GOOD! MAYBE SHARP HORN HELP-UM GET ROPE UNTIED!

HAH! LITTLE BEAVER HEAP SMART!

GET-UM UP, PAPOOSE! MOON COME-UM UP SOON! WE FIND WHERE BAD PALEFACES TAKE-UM SHEEP!

LATER...

BAD MEN MAKE-UM CAMP! ME SNEAK-UM CLOSE! MAYBE FIND OUT WHERE THEY TAKE-UM SHEEP!

THIS TIME ME DO-UM BETTER WITH SHEEP-SKIN, YOU BETCH-UM!

AS LITTLE BEAVER CREEPS TOWARD THE CAMP...

HOW ABOUT SOME MUTTON CHOPS FOR SUPPER,

GOOD IDEA! I'LL GET ONE OF THE WOOLIES OUT OF THE BUNCH!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO! THERE'S ONE OUT OF THE CORRAL!

NOW THAT'S REAL HANDY!

YOU... YOU SHOT THE HIDE RIGHT OFF THAT...!

BLAM!

THE OUTLAWS SEARCH FOR LITTLE BEAVER IN VAIN...

HEY! THAT'S NO SHEEP! IT'S THE INJUN KID WE LEFT BACK AT THE NAVAHO VILLAGE!

WE BETTER STOP HIM!

BLAST IT! THE LITTLE VARMINT ISN'T WITH THE SHEEP! RECKON HE GOT AWAY!

I DON'T LIKE THIS! THAT KID COULD MAKE TROUBLE!

HE'LL GO FOR HELP SURE AS SHOOTIN'!

WE BETTER LOAD THE SHEEP AND ROLL OUT OF HERE *PRONTO!*

BLAST IT! ... OUT OF MY WAY!

MAYBE *THIS'LL* TEACH YOU!

TAKE IT EASY W TH . THAT LEAD SHEEP, FLIP! WE NEED HIM!

S THE RUSTLERS WALK AWAY...

GET AWAY! ME GIVE-UM YOU PLENTY GRASS SOME OTHER TIME! SHOO!

YOU COME-UM WITH ME, SHEEP! ME GOT-UM IDEA!

HEY! LOOK OVER THERE! THAT LEAD SHEEP'S PLENTY INTERESTED IN SOMETHING NEAR THAT WAGON! DID YOU GUYS CHECK OVER THERE?

NO, WE THOUGHT *YOU* DID!

THEN THAT'S THE ***ONLY*** PLACE WE DIDN'T LOOK! --- COME ON!

IN THE MEANTIME, LITTLE BEAVER HAS BEEN VERY BUSY----

OOH-AH! HERE COME-UM OUTLAWS! GOT TO MOVE-UM FAST! FIRST, ME UNTIE THIS ROPE---

WHEW! GET-UM LOOP TIED IN CORRAL ROPE ***JUST IN TIME!***

NOW, SCOOT-UM! --- ***HAYAH!***

BERT, LOOK! IT'S THE INJUN!

WHAP!

S THE STARTLED LEAD SHEEP RUSHES PAST THE RUSTLERS...

HEY! LOOK OUT! YEEEOW!

WHA...!

HELL-L-LP!

... WHEN THE SHEEP SEE THEIR LEADER DASHING BY, THEY RUSH TO FOLLOW...

DADBURNED INJUN! I'LL GET..!

LOOK OUT! THOSE DUMB SHEEP ARE STARTIN' TO FOLLOW THAT..!

WHOOF!

BAAA!

OUTLAWS OUT COLD NOW! ME TIE-UM UP! IN MORNING, WE HEAD-UM FOR SPIRIT MOUNTAIN!

EARLY NEXT MORNING...

NOW YOU GET-UM UP IN WAGON HEAP *FAST!*

SOON...

NOW HEAD-UM WAGON FOR SPIRIT MOUNTAIN!

OKAY! OKAY! BUT STOP WAVIN' THAT SIX-GUN AROUND!

A PLEDGE DELL COMIC TO PARENTS

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LATER THAT AFTERNOON...

IT BE-UM LITTLE BEAVER!

WHAT HIM DO WITH SHEEP IN WAGON?

LITTLE BEAVER, WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

YOU TELL-UM LITTLE BEAVER HIM COME TO SING IF FIND-UM WAY TO GET SHEEP HERE!

... HERE BE-UM SHEEP!

SEEMS YOU GATHERED IN THREE MIGHTY BLACK SHEEP WITH THE BUNCH, TOO, LITTLE BEAVER!

THOSE JASPERS ARE WANTED ALL OVER THE TERRITORY!... HOW IN THE WORLD DID YOU CATCH THEM?

IT BE-UM LIKE THIS, SHERIFF NEWT! AFTER THEY STEAL-UM SHEEP, ME USE STALK-UM SHEEPSKIN, AND...

YOU USED ***THAT*** SHEEPSKIN TO STALK THOSE MEN?... LITTLE BEAVER, I DID NOT THINK YOU TO BE THAT CLEVER!

B... BUT, CHIEF WHITE CLOUD, ME NOT SAY-UM THAT! ME...!

THE REST OF THE STORY CAN WAIT, LITTLE BEAVER!... BECAUSE YOU HAVE SUCCESS-FULLY STALKED THE MOST CLEVER GAME, YOU SHALL BE AWARDED THE STALKING PRIZE WITHOUT EVEN ENTERING THE CONTEST!

B... BUT...!

AN' THAT ISN'T ALL THE PRIZE YOU'RE IN FOR, LITTLE BEAVER! THERE'S A BIG REWARD WAITIN' FOR YOU IN TOWN AS SOON AS YOU WANT IT!

THIS IS A PROUD DAY FOR US, LITTLE WARRIOR! COME, YOU SHALL SIT WITH THE CHIEFS AND WATCH THE SING!

OH WELL! ME ***TRY*** PLENTY HARD TELL-UM WHAT HAPPENED, ANYWAY!